

A PLAYTIME BOARD BOOK



When We Grow Up





**"Grownups!" grumbled Littlefoot.
"Who needs them or their silly rules,"
snorted Cera. "Rules are not fun . . . nope,
nope, nope!" pouted Ducky.**



Petrie, Spike and Chomper were disappointed, too. They'd all planned to spend the night in the forest and it was going to be their greatest adventure — until the grownups all said, "Wait till you're bigger."



Suddenly Cera stood up, huffing “I am a three horn, and a three horn makes her own rules . . . I’m going!” “But Cera,” Littlefoot called after her, “you’ll get in trouble.” “Big, big trouble, oh yes, yes, yes,” echoed Ducky.



“Good-bye . . . Little Babies!” Cera teased, already out of sight. Not one of them liked being called “baby” (just like Cera knew they wouldn’t) and so they just had to follow her (just like Cera knew they would).

“Hear that?” asked Littlefoot, slowing to a stop. “Like stomach talking, but louder,” Petrie whispered. “I know that sound,” gasped Ducky. “Oh no, oh no, I really do. It’s . . .”





At that very moment the clouds rolled back, the moon shone down, and Ducky was speechless. Everyone could see the gurgling, sinking sand . . . every one, that is, except Cera!



“Stop! Wait!” they called out, but it was too late. “Help!” screamed the frightened three horn when she realized she couldn’t move her two front feet and was sinking deeper and deeper.

Spike was the first to think of a plan. He pushed a dead branch toward Cera, hoping she'd grab on. But as she reached for it, her unstuck feet slipped and she fell back again, sinking deeper than before.





Just then, a huge shadow bent down and Cera was swooped up in its mighty jaws. The others all closed their eyes and trembled with fear. But as Cera came down gently, Littlefoot heard his Grandpa's familiar voice . . .



“Until you learn to follow simple rules, you’ll never see or understand all the secrets of the Great Valley,” Grandpa said. His voice was half angry, but half gentle, too. Cera and Littlefoot and Petrie and Spike and Chomper and Ducky knew they had grown up a little that night, but for now, they were glad they weren’t too grown up for a nice, safe ride back home.



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Cover Illustration provided by Universal Studios Licensing, Inc.



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Ashland Ohio 44805

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Manufactured in Thailand

ISBN 0-7696-0240-1



Conforms to ASTM D-4236